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Cyberbullying- What schools can do to stop it

Journal review

I read the article “Cyberbullying, and what schools can do to stop it” by Emily Richmond. This article was about the cyberbullying epidemic and how schools can prevent and stop this from happening. The article begins by telling a story about a girl, Pheobe, in Massachusetts that committed suicide due to being bullied in school and on social media. Six students are now facing various charges in relation to Pheobe’s sucide and a new law has since been brought about in Massachusetts to help deter bullying. The article stated that an alarming 43% of students reported being cyberbullied. The emphasis in this article is focused on teachers, bus drivers, and other school staff to report any incidences of cyberbullying and for these incidents to be investigated by the police if necessary. There was also a focus on training staff and parents on cyberbullying.

I think social media and technology makes it easier to bully. You almost have an anonymous feel to using social media and you don’t have to physically harm someone. This probably makes it easier for some children to be mean and hurtful and to spread vicious rumors without feeling guilty. While I do feel that this is a huge problem I am not sure if schools and parents are asking too much of school staff. The article states that staff needs to be aware and trained and that they need to report any and all incidents. This causes staff to be vigilant to what is going on not only in their classroom, but in the hall, lunch, and at extracurricular activities. If cyberbullying is still occurring who is at fault? The staff? The Principal? Teachers cannot monitor every student’s computer or phone all the time. Parents and students need to be held responsible for bullying as well.